No.	State	Rurlal	Urban
15	Uttar Pradesh	336.88	416.29
16	West Bengal	350.17	409.22
17	Delhi	362.68	505.45
	All India#	327.56	454.11

The poverty line (implicit) at all-India level is worked out from the expenditure class-wise distribution of persons and the poverty ratio at all-India level. The poverty ratio at all-India level is obtained as the weighted average of the state-wise poverty ratio.

NH Programme in Karnataka

1726. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Golden Quadrilateral and National Highway programme in Karnataka; and

(b) the expected date of completion of current phase of the Golden Quadrilateral work in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Out of total length of 624 km. covered under Golden Quadrilateral (GQ), 562 km. have already been completed and remaining 62 km. are under implementation. These are expected to be completed by December, 2006 except for Chitradurga bypass, where earlier contract was terminated. This bypass is now targeted to be completed by June, 2008.

As regards other National Highway works, presently 151 works are in progress. These are expected to be completed by March, 2008.

Upgradation of non-major ports

1727. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive plan has been formulated to upgrade over 100 non-major ports in the country to handle

large vessels, with a view to enhancing the country's port capacity from 600 million tonnes to 2000 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation; and

(c) the details of the non-major ports in the country presently handling the large vessels and specific action plans drawn up for upgradation of the other non-major ports?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) There are 187 ports other than major ports (non-major ports) which are under the overall jurisdiction of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. During an interactive session on the Port Sector between the Department of Shipping and port authorities in the Maritime State Government and Union Territory Administrations held on 3rd July, 2006, a scenario where the Indian ports, both major and non-major, need to plan for building up an aggregate cacacity of at least 2000 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) by the year 2016-17 was visulized in the context of the rate at which the Indian economy is expected to grow in the near future. Responsibility for the development and augmentation of capacities in the non-major ports devolves on the respective State Governments/Union Territoty Administrations.

Widening of Ambala-Chandigarh National Highway

1728. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is heavy traffic on the Ambala-Chandigarh route and passengers have to spend at least two hours to complete the journey from Ambala to Chandigarh which is about 40 km; and

(b) whether Government have decided to widen that road long long back and if so, the status of that proposal and by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA) : (a) and (b)